



Di-Dah-Dit

Official Newsletter of the Parkersburg Radio Klub
1722 20th. St. Parkersburg, WV 26101

ARRL Learning Center Features Two New Emergency Communication Training Courses

ARRL Learning Center Features Two New Emergency Communication Training Courses

ARRL has released [two new courses](#) to train emergency communications (EmComm) operators for volunteering within the [Amateur Radio Emergency Service® \(ARES®\)](#). Both courses are within the ARRL Learning Center.

The Basic EmComm course is designed to get a new volunteer started.

It provides basic knowledge and tools for any emergency communications volunteer and contains three modules and 11 topics, including required prerequisites. It's expected to take approximately 10 - 20 hours to complete.

The Intermediate EmComm course builds on the lessons learned in the first course and equips volunteer radio amateurs with the tools needed to thrive in the fast-paced environment of public service communications and to understand the legal rights and responsibilities of working with a served agency, as well as teach them and how ham radio fits into the broader incident command (IC) structure.

The new courses replace the previous EC-001 and EC-016 programs, however, certificates of completion earned for the previous courses are still valid. "Training is not a one-and-done thing. Throughout my firefighting and emergency management career, we were constantly taking new courses to reinforce existing knowledge and introduce new concepts," said ARRL Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston, KE5MHV. "Engaged volunteers should want to stay up to date on advances in the science of emergency communications. I'd even encour-

age veteran operators to take the new courses."

In 2023, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) [revised the Guide for National Emergency Preparedness](#) to specifically include amateur radio. ARRL and FEMA entered into a new Memoranda of Understanding in May 2023 that outlined the importance of trained radio amateurs within the response ecosystem.

"Amateur radio is as important as ever in emergency management," said Johnston. "The new courses will keep hams trained to serve effectively."

The ARRL Learning Center at learn.arrl.org is a member benefit and features many ways to get the most out of your amateur radio license. The Basic and Intermediate EmComm courses are available to anyone with a free www.arrl.org account. Users must log in to the ARRL Learning Center with this account, and functionality of the site relies on cookies being enabled.



What is Winter Field Day?

What is WFD?



Winter Field Day is an exciting annual event for amateur radio enthusiasts, taking place on the last full weekend of January. It offers a unique opportunity for radio operators to set up field operations in remote locations, enabling them to connect with other participants worldwide. You may choose to participate solo or get your your friends, family, or whole club involved. Winter Field Day is organized by the Winter Field Day Association. The association strongly believes that ham radio operators should practice portable emergency communications in winter environments. This is because freezing temperatures, snow, ice, and other hazards pose unique operational concerns.



The Winter Field Day event aims to help participants improve their preparedness for disasters and enhance their operational abilities in adverse conditions. Amateur radio operators have the freedom to use frequencies on the HF, VHF, or UHF bands while employing voice, CW, and digital transmissions. The event designates specific objectives to encourage a diverse range of activities, including the use of non-com-

mercial power sources, the deployment of multiple antennas, establishing satellite contacts, and more. Click here to read more about the history and purpose of winter field day.

Who Will Win the “Nut-Zee Ham Op” plaque ? ? ?



The “Nut-Zee Ham Op” award is given to that Ham who’s a little bit “Nut-Zee” about ham radio.

This is a circulating award and must be displayed in the winner’s shack for an indeterminate of time (until such actions by another ham makes that person eligible for the “Nut-Zee”).

Qualifications for the award are determined by, but not limited to:

- reversing polarity
- forget net control
- no belt on tower
- talks to mic back
- learns CW
- rig that smokes
- uses “10-4”
- says Hi Hi (laugh)
- wrong Q-code
- joins ARRL
- ANT party goer
- penny for a fuse
- mower cuts coax
- speaks Chinese

- Field Day helper
- says, “70-thirds”
- forgets meeting
- buys XYL new rig
- keeps XYL’s rig
- trades XYL for rig
- uses RG-58 coax
- likes kerchunking
- “lid” without a jar
- time-out champ
- volume turned off
- doubles
- double doubles
- uses kilocycles
- Ohm is a last name
- so is Farad/Hertz
- db doesn’t sting

Possession of and use of solder “joints” (cold or otherwise) is not illegal.

Nor has there been a bill before Congress to legalize solder joints for medical purposes.

Fair Radio Sales, an iconic electronic military surplus store in Lima, Ohio, announced in August 2023 that they would be going out of business in October of that year. Phil Sellati, owner of Fair Radio Sales, told The ARRL Letter editor last year that it was time to close the business. "I took over the business that my dad started in 1947, and after 50 years, it's time to close the doors," he said. Sellati had an offer on the building and felt that it was time to move on and was wondering what might come next. But they haven't closed their doors just yet. At the urging of many amateur radio operators, Fair Radio Sales is still in business and will be open during the 2024 Dayton Hamvention®. The company's website recently

posted: "Fair Radio will be open until June 28, 2024. We will then prepare for an auction to be held in the summer." Thousands of amateur radio operators, collectors, experimenters, and short-wave listeners have visited the store over the years. The shelves and aisles are full of old military radios and receivers. Many other electronic surplus stores, like J.J. Glass Surplus in California and Ritco Electronics in Virginia, closed several years ago.

Klub Minutes

The October meeting of the Parkersburg Amateur Radio Klub was called to order at Western Sizzlin steakhouse by Larry Dale at 6:30 PM.

Old business:

The Christmas dinner this year will be held at Emmanuel Baptist Church on our regular meeting night to second Monday of December, the 9th. The dinner will be catered. You can either order baked steak or chicken for \$15 a person. The payment may be made at the November meeting.

Minutes of the September meeting were read by Mary W, move to accept the minutes was made by Connor and seconded by Mike, approved as read. The treasures report was given by Jane. The ending balance of \$3950.13. A motion to accept the treasurers report was made by Earl seconded by Jim and approved.

Larry reported that the ARRL is offering a scholarship for new hams

under the age of 21 to reimburse their membership for the first year.

Larry also shared his vision for an outreach to the public regarding ham radio.

It would involve about four meetings open to the public.

The first one would be a brief introduction to the hobby,

The second one would be a basic question and answer session about ham radio and finding testing and where to find study materials.

The third meeting would be more in-depth questions and solving problems and solutions.

Final meeting would be a test session.

The details will have to be worked out but it's a new vision that Larry has for the club to help promote radio.

This Thursday, October 17 is going to be a simulated emergency test starting at 6 PM. If you were interested you're supposed to go to a gathering place where you could meet others or in place such as a church. Then you check in with your call to the local repeater. There will be a net control there to take your info. It should not require more than half hour. The check in repeaters are the 255 machine and the 97 machine.

50-50 raffle was one by Bill \$24. Yay

Introductions were made by 28 members and guests.

New member application from Mike Courtney, we are calling him power Mike because he works for the power company. The motion to accept his application was ap-

proved. He will be an associate member for one month and then the final vote will be next meeting.

Adjournment at 7:15
022

I think I got everything minutes taken by Mary W., dictated by Jerry, KA8NJW

Minutes of the November 11, 2024 meeting of the Parkersburg amateur radio club at Western Sizzlin steakhouse 6:30 PM.

Before calling the meeting to order at 6:30 PM, President Larry Dale recognized all the veterans in the club.

Ray Bodie and Larry Dale showed off the Quilts they had been given from their local organizations and recognition of their service to the country.

Larry Dale also recognized Dave the mayor of Lowell Ohio for his presence at the club meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30.

There were 34 members and guests in attendance.

Old business, the first order of business was the recognize Mike WV 8PWR as being a full club.

Member motion was made by Jim and seconded by Connor to accept him as a full member motion passed.

Larry said it was time. The checking account needed audited and Naomi and Debbie volunteered to have the books audited by the end of the first quarter of the year.

Larry encouraged club to utilize the club website W8Par.org to see what upcoming events and activities were available. He also encouraged members to check into the Tuesday evening Aries net every Tuesday night on the 97 machine and he also encourage people to check into over the coffee cup net on a 97 machine every morning at 8 am .

New business:

President, Larry said that he's been getting ongoing communication from the school system concerning going into Parkersburg South high school to work with the ROTC teacher. and the science department head Jeanne DeMoss to develop in 2025 a stem lesson and Air Force ROTCC classes to inform students about ham radio.

This could lead to young people getting their license and to start ham radio station at the school.

Connor, Scott, Rick, Mike, Robert and Bob said they would be interested in going into the school and encouraging students to become new hams.

Larry included a tidbit of information that new young hams can get their AR membership free for the first year.

As a note to the side, anybody going into the school would need to have a background check.

The Christmas party was discussed and payments were due Monday.

The Christmas party is scheduled for Monday, December 9 at the

Emmanuel Baptist Church at 5:30 in the evening 1710 33rd St..

Volunteers will be providing desserts. One will be sugar-free guaranteed. The rest of the meal is provided and will be served promptly at 5:30.

Jane was recognized for her efforts in securing the location and the caterer and the entertainment for this holiday group meeting.

Motion was made by Norma and seconded by Teresa to the appropriate \$100 as donation for the chamber choir performance.

Scott made a motion to have business cards printed to introduced people to ham radio. These would be given out at events like winter field day field day, volcano days, etc.

Jane reminded everybody that 2025 dues are due in Jan.

Bob made the motion to adjourn and Scott seconded the meeting adjourned at 7:30

Brenda won the 50-50 raffle of over \$30

Park minutes December 2024 Meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM by Larry Dale. We were meeting at Emmanuel Baptist Church on 23rd St. for our annual Christmas dinner.

Larry started a meeting with an invocation mentioning the five silent keys we've had over the past year.

Introductions were given by 34 guests and members. The 50-50 raffle of \$40. was one by Krista. Motion was made to give the other \$40 to the church for the use of the room motion passed.

Minutes were read from the November meeting by Mary W. Motion to accept the minutes was made by Libby and seconded by Bill passed treasurers report was given by Jane Hulce starting balance of \$3990.13 motion to accept the treasurers report was made by Earl and seconded by Mary and passed.

Old business:

There was ongoing discussion about the ham radio working class at Parkersburg South high school with volunteer instructors working with the ROTC and the stem teachers details still need to be worked out. Other new business I should say other old business January 25, 26th is a winner field day. We will be meeting at the city park and operate six hours only we will be meeting at the main Pavilion more details will follow in the January meeting.

Having no further business meeting, the motion to adjourn was made by Bob CRF and seconded by Scott. We adjourned at 6:50 for entertainment was provided after the meeting by the Parkersburg High School Chamber Choir, they did an ex-

cellent job. Thank you very much. Minutes were taken by Mary WHARTON. Dictated by Jerry Wharton

Some Photos:



That's all Folks